

### Heber City, Utah, Founded

According to the journal of John Crook, nearly all the early pioneers had been converted to the gospel through the humble and inspired teachings of Heber C. Kimball, while he was a missionary in Great Britain. Therefore, through his popular acclaim the town was named after him.

When he learned of this decision, he came to town and met with the people. In his remarks, he is reported to have said, "Now you people have named your little town after me. I want you to see to it, that you are honest, upright citizens, and good Latter-day Saints, that I may not have cause to be ashamed of you."

#### Historical Note:

*"This very year (1987), the Church is celebrating 150 years of the Gospel being preached in the British Isles, where under the inspired, humble teaching of Heber C. Kimball, hundreds were converted and migrated to America, where many settled in Heber Valley."*

### Church Organization in Heber City

In the spring of 1861, the community was recognized by the leaders in Salt Lake City, as being large enough to create an organized ward. A presiding Elder, William Madison Wall, with counselors, John M. Murdock and James Laird were serving as appointed leaders. Joseph S. Murdock from American Fork, was ordained as the first Bishop, with counselors, John W. Witt and Thomas Rasband. Other settlements grew within the Valley and the journal of John Crook reported over one thousand persons, with settlements in Midway, Center Creek, Daniel, and Charleston.

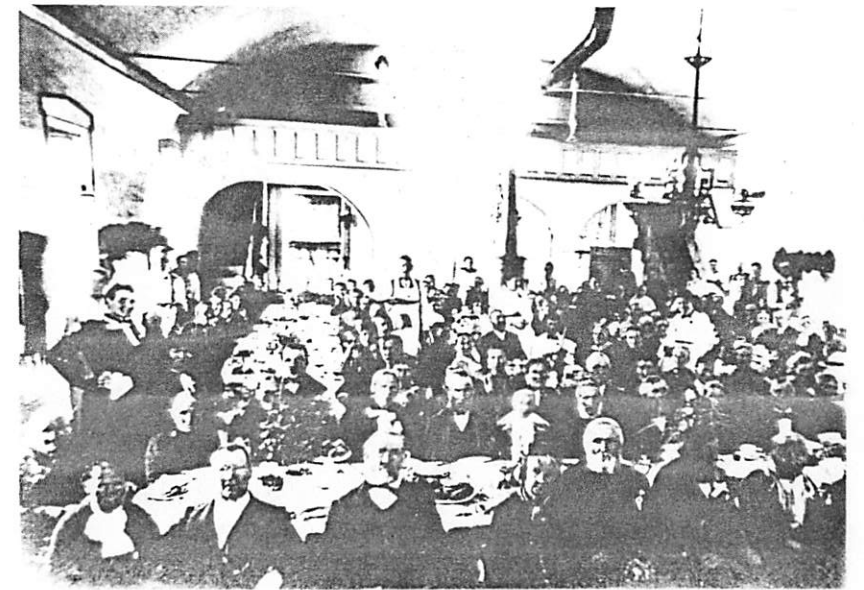
In 1867, Bishop Murdock was sent to Southern Utah to organize settlements there. He had gained the love and respect of the Valley and because of raising an Indian girl, and later marrying her, Indian troubles had subsided.

Abram Hatch, from Lehi, Utah, was then called and set apart as the new Bishop of the Heber Ward. As all leaders seem to be particularly fitted for the time they serve, this man was an able church administrator, as well as a man of sound business and financial judgment. He encouraged the people to build better and more convenient homes and buildings. The proof of this can be observed in more than fifty homes that are still standing today. These

*"Heber Second Ward"*



*Built in 1872-1873 on Main Street, about 150 North on West Main. The center building shows the steeple and front of the social hall. It was located in the vicinity of the present Coast To Coast store. Owen and Golda Buell are in the buggy.*



*Interior of the Main Street Social Hall about 150 North Main.*

old wooden on main st  
Heber Social Hall;

Architect: \_\_\_\_\_

Builders: \_\_\_\_\_

Started: (ground-breaking): \_\_\_\_\_

Fine' \_\_\_\_\_ 1873

Dedicated: 23 Nov 1873 \_\_\_\_\_

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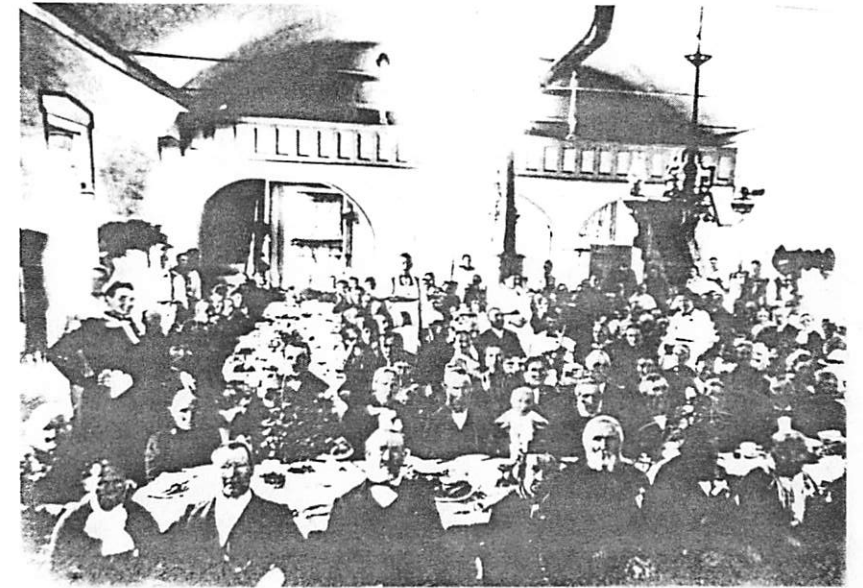
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